



Den edicion di dia 27 di november ultimo, e corant THE GAZETTE, di Montreal, Canada, a dedica atencion na e fallecido estadista Arubano Betico Croes. Aki nos ta trece un reproduccion di loke a sali publica den e corant Canadiense.

Obituaries

Aruban politician G. Croes

UTRECHT (AP) — Gilberto (Betico) Croes, who championed Aruba's drive for independence from the Netherlands and from the rest of the Netherlands Antilles, died yesterday. He was 48.

Croes died in a Dutch nursing centre after almost 11 months in a coma resulting from an automobile accident last year, an official at the centre said.

One of the most flamboyant personalities in Aruban politics, Croes put his stamp on his Caribbean island's efforts in the early 1980s to achieve independence from the Netherlands and from the other five islands of the Netherlands Antilles.

He was born on Aruba, an island of 250,000 people off the northern coast of Venezuela, on Jan. 25, 1938, and was educated as a teacher in the Netherlands.

Croes began his political career in 1967, when he was elected to Aruba's parliamentary body, the Island Council. Later, he joined the island's local government.

Croes and his party, the Electoral Movement of the People, contended that Aruba contributed a disproportionate part of the Netherlands' Antilles budget, but were politically and economically dominated by the biggest and most populous of the six island group, Curacao, the Antillean seat of government.

On April 12, 1983, Aruba, the Netherlands and the other Antillean islands agreed on a blueprint for Aruban independence after a 10-year transition.